CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device**[[,]]** comprising intake pipes for intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine**,** **[[and]]** **one or more** first actuators for adjusting **[[the]]** **an** effective pipe **[[lengths]]** **length** of **at least one of** the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening **between neighboring** **[[of the]]** intake pipes **[[up to a hollow body]],** and at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators **based at least on a speed of the engine**, **the method** comprising the steps of:

[[-]] within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, moving the first actuators into a closed position**[[,]]**;

[[-]] for a speed**[[,]]** exceeding **[[a]]** **the** first threshold value **[[and being]]** **but** less than a second threshold value, moving the first actuators into a leakage position**[[,]]**; and

[[-]] for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, moving the first actuators into an open position.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, **[[wherein]]** **further comprising,** for speeds exceeding the first threshold value **[[and being]]** **but** less than the second threshold value, **controlling the first actuators to adjust** the leakage position **based at least** **[[depends]]** on the speed.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 2, wherein as the speed increases, the leakage is increased **by controlling the first actuators**.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, wherein movement of the first actuators into a leakage position **is further dependant** **[[also depends]]** on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1, **[[wherein]]** **further comprising,** for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, **moving** the first actuators **[[can be moved]]** into the open position.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A device for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device, comprising:

[[-]] intake pipes for intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine**[[,]]**;

[[-]] **one or more** first actuators for adjusting **[[the]]** **an** effective pipe **[[lengths]]** **length** of **at least one of** the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening **between neighboring** **[[of the]]** intake pipes **[[up to a hollow body,]]**;

[[-]] at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators **based at least on a speed of the engine;[[,]]**

[[-]] first means that within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, move the first actuators into a closed position**[[,]]**;

[[-]] second means that for a speed**[[,]]** exceeding **[[a]]** **the** first threshold value **[[and being]]** **but** less than a second threshold value, **[[moving]]** **move** the first actuators into a leakage position**[[,]]**; and

[[-]] third means that for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, move the first actuators into an open position.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A device for controlling an internal combustion engine with an intake device, comprising:

[[-]] intake pipes coupled with intakes of cylinders of the internal combustion engine**[[,]]**;

[[-]] **one or more** first actuators for adjusting **[[the]]** **an** effective pipe **[[lengths]]** **length** of **at least one of** the intake pipes by closing or opening at least one opening **between neighboring** **[[of the]]** intake pipes **[[up to a hollow body,]]**;

[[-]] at least one second actuator for controlling the first actuators**[[,]]**; **and**

[[-]] a control unit for controlling the second actuator **based at least on a speed of the engine[[,]]**; wherein

[[-]] within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into a closed position**[[,]]**;

[[-]] for a speed**[[,]]** exceeding **[[a]]** **the** first threshold value **[[and being]]** **but** less than a second threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into a leakage position**[[,]]**; and

[[-]] for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, the control unit controls the second actuator to move the first actuators into an open position.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The device according to claim 10, wherein for speeds exceeding the first threshold value **[[and being]]** **but** less than the second threshold value, the control unit controls the leakage position **[[depending]]** **based at least** on the speed.

12. (Original) The device according to claim 11, wherein the control unit increases the leakage as the speed increases.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The device according to claim 10, wherein the control unit controls the movement of the first actuators into a leakage position **[[depending]]** **based both on the speed and** on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The device according to claim 10, wherein for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, the control unit controls the **second actuator to move the** first actuators **[[to be moved]]** into the open position.

15. (Original) The device according to claim 14, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

16. (Original) The device according to claim 10, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

17. (Original) The device according to claim 10, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The device according to claim 10, wherein the **at least one** second actuator **[[is]] comprises** an electric motor.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The device according to claim 10, wherein the **one or more** first actuators **[[are]] comprise** switching flaps.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A method for controlling an internal combustion engine comprising the steps of:

[[-]] providing intake control means for controlling an effective pipe length of an intake pipe system by opening or closing at least one opening **between neighboring [[of the]]** intake pipes **[[up to a hollow body]]**;

[[-]] determining an engine speed;

[[-]] within a first speed range whose upper limit is a first threshold value, closing the opening**[[,]]**;

[[-]] for a speed**[[,]]** exceeding **[[a]] the** first threshold value **[[and being]] but** less than a second threshold value, controlling said opening to **[[have]] allow** a leakage**[[,]]**; and

[[-]] for a speed exceeding the second threshold value, opening said opening.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 20, **[[wherein]] further comprising,** for speeds exceeding the first threshold value **[[and being]] but** less than the second threshold value, **adjusting** the leakage **based at least [[depends]]** on the speed.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein as the speed increases, the leakage is increased.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 20, wherein movement of the first actuators into a leakage position **is further dependant [[also depends]]** on a load size of the internal combustion engine.

24. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 20, **[[wherein]] further comprising,** for a speed less than a third threshold value that is less than the first threshold value, **opening** the opening **[[is opened]]**.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24, wherein the third threshold value is in the range from 900 to 1500 rpm.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the first threshold value is in the range from 2800 to 4000 rpm.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 20, wherein the second threshold value is in the range from 3400 to 4800 rpm.